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issue 34, volume 84 www.newbuffalotimes.com Thursday, August 28, 2025

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HOLD THE LINE...

RAIDERS LOOK GOOD IN FOOTBALL PRESEASON SCRIMMAGE

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Commemorative bricks can be purchased for 'Tribute Plaza'

New Buffalo Township is proud to announce the future site of Tribute Plaza.

This new park, located at the corner of U.S. Highway 12 and Clay Street, formerly the site of the State Police Post, is set to become a special space for reflection and remembrance.

Tribute Plaza will serve as a peaceful sanctuary where individuals can come to honor the sacrifices of our veterans. In addition to being a place of private reflection, it will also function as a gathering space for events that recognize and celebrate the service and dedication of our military heroes and create a lasting tribute to the brave men and women who have served our country.

A commemorative brick memorial is a meaningful and lasting way to honor the courage and sacrifices of our veterans. Bricks will be engraved to recognize the military service of veterans and active-duty personnel. Bricks can be purchased through Sept. 30, 2025. Option A is $50, Option B is $75, and Option C is $100. Order forms are available at www.newbuffalotownship.org under NEWS.

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For more information, contact Patty Iazzetto, treasurer, at piazzetto@newbuffalotownship.org. — STAFF REPORTS

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FONT TO HOLD INDOOR COMMUNITY MARKET

The Friends of New Troy's Community Market season will kick off with new hours, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 13, in the Community Room of the New Troy Community Center.

The market will feature local makers, crafters and merchants. Lunch will be cooked and served by community center volunteers as a fundraiser for a much-needed new roof. September's menu will include Terry's famous five pepper chili, sourdough bread, popcorn and soft drinks.

As table space is limited, previous vendors will be given priority. Interested new vendors should check the Friends of New Troy Community Center Facebook page for availability information and a link to reserve a spot or leave a message at the New Troy Community Center at 269-426-3909.

Markets will continue the second Saturday of every month, through spring of 2026.

The New Troy Community Center is funded by memberships, donations, and fundraising events — but no tax dollars. Located at 13372 California Road in New Troy, Michigan, it is owned, operated and maintained by volunteer members of Friends of New Troy, a non-profit 501(c)3. — STAFF REPORTS

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

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VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
The Board meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

SCHOLASTICS

New Buffalo school board hears high school's high rankings

DISCUSSES FUTURE OF FREE MEALS PROGRAM

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the New Buffalo Area Schools Board of Education received positive academic news at their last meeting before the start of the 2025-2026 academic year at their Monday, Aug. 27, meeting.

Superintendent Adam Bowen said U.S. News & World Report has ranked New Buffalo High School 34th in Michigan High Schools.

High school principal Tracy Ripley had shared that the school was ranked 54 last year.

The school is also ranked 1,238 in the National Rankings. Schools are ranked on their performance on state-required tests, graduation and how well they prepare students for college.

NBHS was also ranked second in Niles, Michigan, Metro Area High Schools.

"I think we're going to continue to do more just with some items we have in place – we're a high performing school and we're continuing to move that needle and we'll keep working hard and keep getting good results," Bowen said.

Bowen said all staff members had reported back to school that day and that the first day of school is a half day Tuesday, Sept. 2. The first day of pre-kindergarten is Monday, Sept. 8.

Also ahead of the new school year, Bowen said on Aug. 27 that currently, Michigan's free school meal program is only funded through Sept. 30.

Bowen said the state has not settled on a budget, which includes a school aid budget. Wrapped into that budget is school lunches.

Currently, breakfast and lunch are being paid for until Sept. 30 through the state budget.

State law requires a budget by July 1. Oct. 1 is the start of the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the state.

The district does have a free and reduced application, which it's been pushing through emails and social media.

The cost of food alone for the district is $200,000, Bowen said.

Board vice president Denise Churchill suggested auto calls that would alert people to the state budget not being passed and how it will affect school lunches, which might garner more attention than an email.

Churchill said individuals can also act by calling their state representatives and saying how not continuing the program would affect their child or children.

"I think this certainly will affect a lot of families in the community," she said.

Bowen said Sue Martinic, the food service director, does a "nice job" of looking at the menu and what it offers to help increase students eating at school.

Since the 2023-2024 school year, Michigan has offered universally free breakfast and lunch to all public-school students, regardless of income, through the Michigan School Meals program.

Bowen said that, hopefully, there'll be a development in the next month, and lawmakers can settle on a budget, which will include the continuation of the program.

Board members approved the NBAS Career and Technical Education Program (Construction Trades) and the district recommended Michigan Merit Curriculum Credit 2025-2026, which Bowen said is done annually to ensure students can receive math and science credits.

Board members approved an Athletic Trainer Services Agreement, which Bowen said is an annual agreement with their athletic trainer.

The district finally received a permit from the drain commission and crews have been moving dirt around at the baseball/softball fields ahead of their renovations. A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 3, during which Bowen said members of the school board, the New Buffalo Area Recreation Authority, the New Buffalo Community Education Foundation Board, school staff and baseball and softball players will be invited to join.

Board members heard of the resignation of Kathy Dohner, elementary head cook after 22 years, effective Oct. 1.

Board members heard Bowen had approved the following hires: Jessica Soapes, Bison After School Enrichment lead; Linda Douglas, Bison Afterschool Enrichment lead and Morgan Lijewski, elementary paraprofessional.

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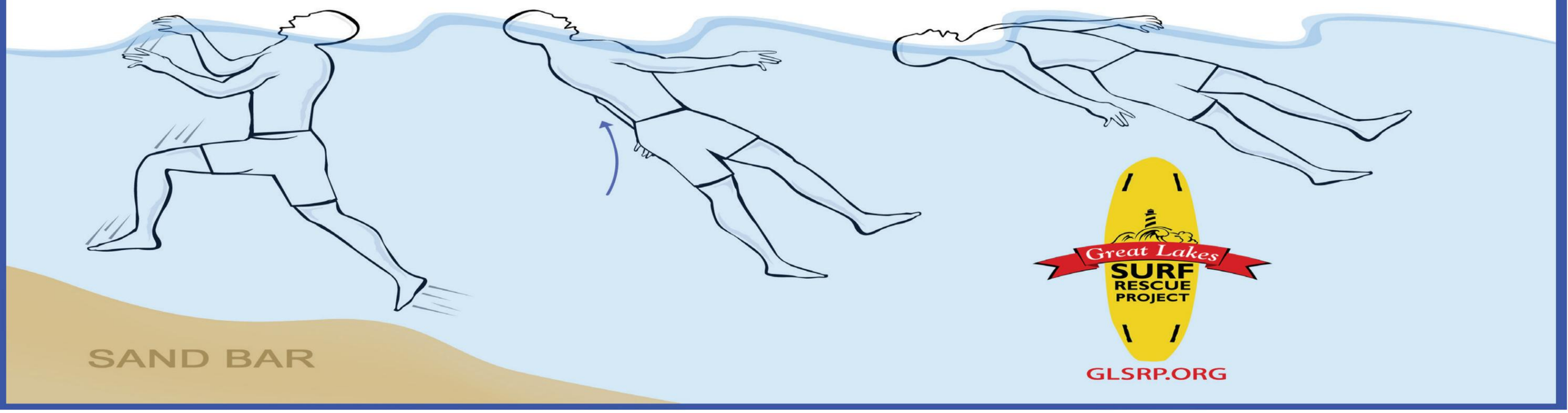

Great Lakes SURF RESCUE PROJECT
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Village Council approves moving forward with village projects

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the Grand Beach Village Council approved several projects for the Tennis Court Project at their Wednesday, Aug. 20, meeting.

The projects will be paid for by the $62,500 in donations from the Thomas M Tunney Foundation Fund at the Chicago Community Foundation, Kimberly Radich, Vicky and John Hoover, Jim Krillenberger, Tricia and Kevin Stewart, Doug and Ann Grissom, Lewis and Anne Kostiner, Siobhan and Chris Kozicki, Tim and Mary Lyne, Stanley Awdisho, and the Cooney Family and from $50,000 budgeted in the village's Capital Improvement Plan.

Council members approved awarding a contract to ABC Asphalt to scrape existing coating off the old tennis court, surface sweep and blow clean and to clean out the cracks, as well as to apply tack coat adhesive and pre level the court with hot mix asphalt and then pave with hot mix asphalt surface course that's 2.5 inches thick for a cost of $33,000.

Council members also approved awarding a contract to American Sealcoating, LLC to clean the new asphalt surface, apply two coats of acrylic resurfacer to all repairs, apply two coats of Sports-Master acrylic color to the entire playing area and out of bounds areas and to stripe one tennis court and two pickleball courts on the tennis surface for a cost not to exceed $14,850.

The awarding of a contract to Custom Fence Co. to furnish and install approximately 440 lineal feet of a 12-foot tall 8 gauge x 1 ¾-inch gate with a 4-foot transom above, with a 2-inch welded gate frames, with top, middle and bottom 1 5/8-inch horizontal rails, with 3-inch posts set in concrete 4-foot deep and 12-inch diameter, and that a 4-foot fence is required to separate the pickleball courts from the tennis court as well as to separate the two pickleball courts, for a cost not to exceed $47,000 was approved.

Council members approved awarding a contract to American Sealcoating, LLC to apply two coats of Sports-Master acrylic sports court to the basketball court area for $7,250.

Council members approved a Peerless-Midwest Proposal for a hydropneumatics tank for the golf course pump house for $6,600.

Jack Grace, golf and pro shop commissioner, said that he just interviewed what he believes is the last contractor and that it's hoped that within the next three weeks to a month, the village will get some "solid bids" with regards to a new irrigation system, so that they can proceed with the final interview process with regards to who they deem qualified for the job.

Recently, repairs were made to three broken lines on the first hole.

"Just another reminder how bad that we do need a new irrigation system," he said.

Upon recommendation from Planning Commission Chair Ross Kerr, council members approved appointing Blake O'Halloran to fill the vacant seat on the commission and that council president Harry Walder will serve as the council liaison to the commission.

Walder said that O'Halloran will be stepping down from the Short-Term Rental Committee and anyone who's interested in filling his place can contact clerk Kim Wolnik or a council member, with the goal of having someone at the next council meeting.

The purchase of 10 trees and 10 tall grasses from A&E Landscaping Services, LLC., was approved, which includes delivery and installation as follows: two Arborvitae and one Hornbeam to be planted at Skyhi where 10 trees were destroyed last fall; two Arborvitae, one Hemlock, three Maples and 10 tall grasses at the end of Grand Beach Road between the road and railroad tracks in an approximately 120-foot long area and one Silver along Perkins at the Village Hall all for the sum of $4,580.

Council members approved Stephenson Land Surveying staking the northeast edge of the Royal Avenue right of way from the intersection of Royal, Fairway and Station to the intersection at Royal and Crescent for $1,100. Walder said that this will be the first step to figuring out where the village's property lines are and determining where, if they want to, they can put a sidewalk in.

Great Lakes Urban Forestry training on the GIS Platform for data collection, date management and planning for urban forestry initiatives for $725 was approved. Walder said this will give the village the training to use the system that was used to identify the village's trees, which were put on a map and spreadsheet, based on a variety of criteria in GLUF's management plan.

Council members approved nominating Ed Sebastian as the village's representative on the Local Revenue Sharing Board.

A pay increase for Public Works employee Keith Kehoe as supervisor in training was approved.

Council members adopted a resolution approving the addition of Michigan Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System as an approved investment option. Clerk Kim Wolnik said this is a Michigan CLASS cooperative and that the village can combine their CDs into this fund.

Council members approved Police Chief Ryan Layman's recommendation for the process of hiring a replacement for Jamie Flick.

Police commissioner Ed Brandes said the STR Committee is trying to collect data on what the volume of rentals is in the village and trying to "establish an orderly process of collecting feedback, comments and complaints" on STR situations.

Based on Exhibit B data that was collected from June 2 – Aug. 17 from all people who rent out their home or their rental agents, there was an average of 12.2 rental homes per week and that during that time, of those homes, there was an average of 93.5 occupants. The peak week was July 21, when 26 rentals were occupied and there were 228 occupants for those homes that were rented.

The average occupancy per rental is 7.7 people.

Gary Kagan read the July meeting recount, where he said that "overwhelmingly the comments were in support of the village being more restrictive of STRs," in the recent newsletter, and that the council set a goal to address the issue at the August meeting.

Joe Reinert said Grand Beach currently has the "least restrictive rules" for STRs, including "no caps on permits and no consideration for density," in the area.

He read a list of 13 people who have spoken on public record with concerns.

"We are requesting a ceasefire moratorium on issuing new permits – this would give this community a chance to resolve our differences in a civil way within our village," he said.

David Jones said that, while he's not against rentals, he's against the "very large" homes being rented in his neighborhood, with it seeming like homes are being built for renting.

Angela Trainor said her family uses rentals to accommodate visiting family, adding that others in the village have likely done the same at least once.

A moratorium will make it worse because "everyone's going to run for that last permit just to protect their right to rent in the future." Trainor asked if this year's problem rentals would then not have their permits renewed next year and if a "whole new 50 people" who want them would get permits.

"Limiting it, I think, is going to be a problem – we put it (the ordinance) in place to enforce and that's where we've got to go, we have to enforce," she said.

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

As the baseball regular season ends in five weeks, and the football regular season begins in two, all kinds of stories are floating around.

Let's take a look at a few that caught my attention this week.

My favorite story this week was about the Bears backup quarterback, Tyson Bagent.

Bears fans have always loved backup quarterbacks, usually because the starter wasn't very good. Bagent is different.

Fans and teammates like him because he works so hard and is an excellent backup. Apparently, the front office agrees, because the Bears just signed him to a two year contract worth 10 million dollars.

The team cheered when they found out and Tyson got very emotional when he told the press. A simple, undrafted free agent from tiny Shepherd University has earned life changing money for himself and his family through hard work and dedication. That's the way I always heard it should be. Congratulations Mr. Bagent. I wish you continued success.

Baseball has a different, intriguing story about a player who is going to be paid, and he is currently playing for the Chicago Cubs.

When the Cubs traded for Kyle Tucker before the season began, the experts said that he would probably get a contract worth somewhere around 400 million dollars next year. The Cubs got off to a hot start and the experts raised their estimate to 500 million.

In June, Tucker suffered a hand injury (that nobody knew about) and for six weeks or so was less than mediocre at the plate.

Kyle's injury coincided with the Milwaukee Brewers hot streak, and the Brewers raced by the Cubs in the standings. Apparently, Tucker's injury has healed and Milwaukee's hot streak has ended, and the Cubs, as of Sunday night, still trail the Brewers but only by five games with 31 games remaining in the season. Stay healthy Kyle.

I wish I didn't think so much about salaries in baseball, but since the Dodgers went on an historic spending spree a few years ago, salaries are talked about as much as the games themselves.

The five highest contract value players in MLB, as of today, are Juan Soto at 765 million, Shohei Ohtani at 700 million, Mike Trout at 426.5 million, Mookie Betts at 365 million, and Aaron Judge at 360 million.

The Mets and Dodgers spent over 300 million on their payrolls this year, while the Pirates, White Sox, Rays, Athletics, and Marlins spent under 100 million (the Cubs spent 196 million).

While spending money doesn't always equate to victories, it certainly has a tremendous impact. Maybe, the discrepancy can be addressed at the next collective bargaining session which will occur before the 2027 season. It might be a good idea to have your son, and maybe daughter, pursue a baseball career.

Josh Billings said, "Money will buy a pretty good dog, but it won't buy the wag of its tail."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

Man, woman accused of transporting marijuana

BY STAN MADDUX

A man and woman from out of state are accused of transporting 1,400 pounds of marijuana in a box truck stopped by police in La Porte County.

Jacob Pasquale, 35, and Tamy Brennan, 57, are charged in La Porte Circuit Court with Level 5 felony dealing marijuana.

According to court documents, an Indiana State Police trooper on August 19 stopped the eastbound box truck after it twice drove partially on the shoulder of the Indiana Toll Road a few miles west of the La Porte exit.

Both suspects from Ohio on August 9 flew to Oregon where the box truck was rented for two weeks with a scheduled return to Buffalo, New York, police said.

Pasquale told the officer he was helping his sister in-law move and the truck contained her belongings such as a washer, dryer and kitchen table.

Suspecting he wasn't telling the truth, the officer expressed a desire to search the back end of the truck, but Pasquale claimed he didn't have the key to the padlock on the door.

Both suspects also shook their heads when asked if there was anything illegal in the truck.

Another officer came with a K-9 dog, which detected the presence of drugs.

The padlock was then cut off the truck by the officers, who discovered nearly 50 cardboard boxes strapped to the inside wall.

Police said all but one of the boxes contained vacuum sealed packages of marijuana weighing slightly more than pound.

The other box contained 56 pounds of marijuana wax.

Just over $2,500 in cash was also seized from both suspects, police said.

Initially, police said Pasquale claimed the woman was his mother but later described her as his mother-in-law.

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Man's greatness lies in his power of thought.
— Blaise Pascal

Raiders look good in football preseason scrimmage

BY STAN MADDUX

The Red Arrow Raiders looked impressive at times in a preseason high school football varsity scrimmage game at home against the Twin City Sharks Thursday, Aug. 21.

Head Coach Matt Johnson said he was pleased, overall, with how the team performed in the practice game a week before the start of the regular season.

"We're exactly where we thought we would be," he said.

The Raiders were the first to score on a 15-yard pass completion from quarterback Colten Lijewski to wide receiver Cooper Lynch, who ran another 15 yards with the ball for a touchdown.

The Raiders quickly scored again on a 20-yard pass from Lijewski to Lucas Forker, who took the ball another five yards into the end zone.

Lijewski, a sophomore, was named the starting quarterback.

Johnson said he likes Lijewski's arm and ability to run and feels his weaknesses from being young will improve as the season goes along.

"He did a lot of good things. He's just got to get more comfortable making the right reads and making the right throws," he said.

Johnson said he was also impressed with the work of Lynch on offense and defense where he made a number of open field tackles at cornerback.

"If we can get him the ball, I think he's going to do some dangerous stuff," he said.

Other highlights on defense included an interception by Travis James and some big hits landed in a successful gang tackle following a 20-yard pass completion.

Johnson said he also liked the play of the defensive line, which he deemed critical especially in eight-man football to limiting opponents on offense by pressuring the quarterback.

"We're going to be a very dominant defensive line," he said.

August Johnson will be the starting tailback but expect a few other players to take turns at that position.

Johnson said he likes the talent, attitude and depth of this year's squad, which includes many players from last year's impressive junior varsity team.

He has enough talent to limit the number of players who take the field on offense and defense, which he feels is an advantage physically late in games.

Expect Nick Wolfe and Drew Bowen to also receive considerable time on offense and defense along with Forker, occasionally.

"We're really athletic with a lot of guys who can play different positions. I like where we're at," he said.

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ad COUNCIL

FEEDING AMERICA

Dunes Summer Art Theatre to close season with 'Voices from the Heartland'

Dunes Arts Summer Theatre will close the 2025 season with the Third Annual New Plays in Progress Festival "Voices from the Heartland," with performances at 7 p.m. CST (8 p.m. EST) Thursday through Saturday, Sept. 18-20, and 2 p.m. CST (3 p.m. EST) Sunday, Sept. 21.

"Voices from the Heartland" is the Dunes Summer Theatre's annual showcase of new plays by writers in northwest Indiana and southwest Michigan, presented in concert readings.

"This is one of my favorite events of our summer season, giving our audiences a chance to discover the talents of five truly noteworthy Northwest Indiana writers," said Dunes Summer Theatre Artistic Director Steve Scott. "We'll be unveiling three full length plays and two one-acts and this year, we'll also be reading excerpts from two additional plays at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts on Friday, Sept. 5. Several plays from previous festivals have already been slated for full production at local theaters, and I have no doubt that some of this year's works will have a long life on stages around the region and country."

The full performance listing is as follows:

- Thursday, Sept. 18. 7 p.m. CST (8 p.m. EST): "The Trail's Creek" by Zachary Mark
- Friday, Sept. 19. 7 p.m. CST (8 p.m. EST): "Lake Blue Terrace" by Edward Pinkowski
- Saturday, Sept. 20. 7 p.m. CST (8 p.m. EST): "Dionne's House" by Paula Kamen
- Sunday, Sept. 21. 2 p.m. CST (3 p.m. EST: "Trivia Night" by Dean Johanson and "The Man Up North" by Michael Thomas

Tickets are $10 per show or $35 for entry into all performances for the full five performances and can be purchased at dunesARTS.org. All shows take place at Dunes Summer Theatre at 288 Shady Oak Dr, Michigan City, Indiana. Bar and concessions open one hour prior to curtain. Pepe's Fork in the Road Mexican Food Truck will be on site in Dunes Theatre's parking lot one hour before show time. — STAFF REPORTS

Three Oaks Jazz Fest debuting in September

Tickets are on sale for the School of American Music's inaugural Jazz Fest, which is coming to Three Oaks Friday through Sunday, Sept. 12–14.

This inaugural event will honor the legacy of the late Garth Taylor, founder of the School of American Music, whose dream was to bring a world-class jazz festival to the heart of Three Oaks.

Each day of the festival will feature a unique headlining performance, curated to highlight the rich diversity and emotional depth of jazz, from powerhouse vocalists and genre-defying ensembles to intimate brunch performances.

Tickets are available at https://acornlive.my.salesforce-sites.com/ticket. For updated information, visit www.schoolofamericanmusic.com or facebook.com/schoolofamericanmusic.

The weekend will feature the following lineup:

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12

Martha Cares at The Acorn Theater

Cares will open the weekend at 8 p.m. prior to the performance of Lynne Jordan & The Shivers. She's perhaps best known for singing over 1,000 performances in the national Broadway production of "The Phantom of the Opera," directed by the legendary theater director and producer Harold Prince.

Cares is a Grand Prize winner of the International Bel Canto Opera Competition and the International Friedrich Schorr Opera Competition. She has graced the stages as soloist with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Grant Park Music Festival, Florida Grand Opera, Chicago Opera Theatre, Miami Chamber Opera and Milwaukee Opera Company, to name a few, and she has appeared as soloist with the Tulsa Philharmonic, Miami Chamber Symphony and the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra.

Internationally, Cares has performed in Europe through the auspices of the International Bel Canto Foundation. She is honored to have earned her place among the distinguished roster of artists comprising the prestigious Lyric Opera Center for American Artists, the Ryan Opera Center.

Care's voice has been heard in numerous nationally televised commercials highlighted by McDonald's "I'm Lovin'It!" and Clio Award winning Cheer and United Airlines campaigns. She was chosen by the Hal Leonard Corporation as solo recording artist for numerous commercial releases encompassing Musical Theater Classics, Contemporary Musical Theater, Jazz, Classical and the Great American Songbook.

Lynne Jordan & The Shivers at The Acorn Theater – 8 p.m.

Beloved Chicago performer Lynne Jordan will kick off the festival with her band The Shivers, delivering an unforgettable night of jazz, blues, funk, and soul. Known for her explosive stage presence and powerhouse vocals, Jordan's performances have earned her a cult following at legendary venues like the Green Mill and City Winery. With roots in gospel and cabaret, she weaves storytelling and raw emotion into every note, setting the tone for a soulful weekend ahead. Tickets start at $45.

Saturday, Sept. 13

Steven Hashimoto Quartet at The Vickers Theatre– 8 p.m.

Longtime bassist and Chicago music legend Steven Hashimoto will take the stage with a dynamic quartet. Known for his work with adventurous jazz and rock groups such as Maestro Subgum & The Whole and Flippomusic GlobalJazz, Hashimoto blends tradition and experimentation. A veteran of Green Mill's After-Hours Jam and leader of numerous ensembles, Hashimoto brings deep experience, groove, and a distinctive Chicago edge to the festival lineup. Tickets start at $45.

Sunday, Sept. 14

Jeanne Franks & Jazz Brunch at Commune + Market – 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

The festival will close with a stylish Jazz Brunch featuring vocalist Franks, whose polished delivery of American jazz standards will provide the perfect soundtrack for a relaxed Sunday gathering. Guests will enjoy live music alongside curated brunch offerings, mimosas and Bloody Marys at Commune + Market, Three Oaks' artisan hub for food, art and community. Tickets are $55 per person. — STAFF REPORT

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Suspect in prison drug smuggling charged

BY STAN MADDUX

A woman is accused of throwing a bag containing drugs and other contraband over the wall at Indiana State Prison.

Wendy Hughes, 46, is charged in La Porte Superior Court 2 with Level 5 felony trafficking with an inmate.

According to court documents, Hughes in November drove from her home in north central Indiana in a Dodge Charger to the prison on Michigan City's west side.

Two bags were thrown with one containing methamphetamine, marijuana and cell phones making it over the prison wall to an offender in the recreation yard waiting to grab it on the other side, authorities said.

Another bag containing cell phones, chargers, earbud covers and other items such as sewing needles and vape pens fell just short of clearing the wall, according to court documents.

Police said the offender attached the bag he retrieved to a string.

Another offender was given the other end of the string and pulled the bag inside the prison through an open second floor window.

The offender placed the bag into a trash can where it was recovered by prison security.

According to court documents, investigators discovered the smuggling was planned between Hughes and another offender by listening to a recorded telephone conversation they had earlier in the day where payment for the contraband was discussed.

Hughes, who was taken into custody about a month ago, was still being held in La Porte County Jail waiting for the case to be decided on $1,500 bond.

Half naked woman arrested for OWI

BY STAN MADDUX

Police say a woman was naked from the waist down when her vehicle was found parked in the middle of a Michigan City street at night with no headlights on.

Samantha Jenner, 32, of Michigan City was arrested for operating while intoxicated and driving on a suspended license.

Police said the vehicle was discovered Saturday night parked in the travel portion of the pavement in the area of Earl Road and Ohio St. on the city's west side.

No lights were activated on the SUV, which was not running.

Police said Jenner found lying down in the rear of the vehicle without pants or underwear on admitted being the driver.

Her alleged blood alcohol level of nearly four times the legal limit.

According to police, Jenner did not know where her pants were but, eventually, they were found and given to her to put back on before taken to the La Porte County Jail.

She was ordered held without bond due to being on probation at the time of her arrest.

According to court records, a hearing has been scheduled for September 8 for a judge to decide whether to set bail in the case.

OBITUARIES

Doreen Veronica Foreman

1957-2025

Doreen Veronica Foreman, 67, of Three Oaks, passed away peacefully, Tuesday, August 19, 2025, in the comfort of her family's presence.

Her life began November 10, 1957 in Niles, Michigan, the second youngest of eight children born to Otis and Lucille Arndt. She married Mark Foreman on September 17, 2006 in Three Oaks at Real Life Community Church.

Doreen dedicated over thirty years as an administrative secretary at Chikaming Elementary School before enjoying a well-earned and blissful retirement. A devoted member of Real Life Community Church, she lived her faith with grace. She was also a gifted artist, poet, and singer as well as an avid gardener who found beauty and peace in nature. Above all, Doreen was known for her kindness and joy, touching countless lives and leaving a legacy of love.

Doreen will be greatly missed by family and friends. She is survived by her beloved husband of twenty years Mark Foreman of Three Oaks; one daughter, Lori (Chad) Slavens of Bridgman; one son, Joseph (Jennifer) Prenkert of Kalamazoo; two stepsons, Logan (Alesia) Foreman of Kalamazoo, and Jordan (Sara) Foreman of Grand Rapids; two step-grandchildren, Emme Slavens of Bridgman, and Miles Foreman; six sisters, Linda Arndt of Mt. Clemens, Hazel (Gene) Bolin of Rockford, Marilyn (Tim) McIntyre of Richland, Gayle Davis of Lansing, Beth Arndt of Vicksburg, and Elaine (William) Stephens of Canton, Georgia; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother Daniel Arndt, and one nephew Brian Davis.

Family and friends will gather Thursday, August 28, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.in Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, 106 Ash Street East, Three Oaks. A funeral service will be held Friday, August 29, 2025 at Real Life Community Church, 12 Michigan Street, Three Oaks Michigan 49128. An hour of visitation prior to the service, starting at 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at 11:00 a.m.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Doreen be made to Real Life Community Church, 12 Michigan Street, Three Oaks Michigan 49128.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online at www.wagnercares.com

d

Breath and Light

PHOTO BY BRIAN BOSCACCY

As the sun sinks, the sky does a deep exhale in amber and rose. Each breath becomes a prayer of presence—inhale light, exhale release. The horizon stretches, and the fading day invites us into savasana—a soft surrender. At sunset, yoga and light weave together, reminding us to be here now: to breathe, to notice, to bow to beauty as it passes.

Sunset Series by New Buffalo Times*: Inspired by Light & Science*

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
***NEW BUFFALO TIMES* ✹ SUNSET SERIES**

The sun sets on all of us — wherever we are in the world. But there's something about pausing to watch it that feels both universal and deeply personal.

Here in New Buffalo, we've been captivated by the light over Lake Michigan, and we know many of you have your own favorite sunset views — whether it's right here at home or from a far-off shore.

We're inviting you to share your most breathtaking sunset photos with us. Each week, our Sunset Series will feature one image and a short reflection — a chance to pause together and appreciate the simple, stunning magic of day's end.

Send your photo, the location, and a few words about what it meant to you to: info@NewBuffaloTimes.com with subject "Sunset Series".

We welcome submissions from everywhere — with a soft spot for those taken right here in New Buffalo and along the lakeshore.

Let's create a shared gallery of light — a reminder that the sun's setting is not an ending, but part of the rhythm we all live by. — KRISTIN FATOUROS

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This newspaper supports your right to know.

MMPC seeking participants for southwest Michigan working groups

The Southwest Michigan Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC) is seeking community members and professionals to join working groups that will help guide the development of updated county Materials Management Plans for Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren counties.

These plans, which are required under recent updates to Michigan's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (Part 115), focus on waste reduction, recycling, composting, and other waste diversion practices.

The following working groups are available:

County Working Groups (Berrien, Cass, Van Buren): Draft county-specific goals and decide on future recycling and waste management strategies.

Policy Working Group: Research funding options, ordinances, and long-term policies to strengthen recycling and organics programs.

Education Working Group: Develop public education campaigns and identify learning opportunities to support sustainable materials management practices.

Working groups will meet monthly or every other month depending on need. Each working group will choose a spokesperson to coordinate with the Southwest Michigan Materials Management Planning Committee and share meeting summaries. Members will be eligible for a per diem for each meeting they are in attendance.

Those who are interested can fill out the interest form at www.surveymonkey.com/r/materialsmanagementWG.

The deadline to submit forms is noon Sept. 22. — STAFF REPORTS

Hikers to explore Paw Paw River County Park

Hikers are invited to embark on a trek through Berrien County's Paw Paw River County Park Sunday, Sept. 7.

The trail is accessed by bridge and makes its way around the outer perimeter of a 10 acre-island, so water views and fishing spots are abundant. Hiking a Riparian Zone is a good time to learn about their importance as a habitat from Pat Fisher, hike leader and president of Harbor Country Hikers.

The easy 1.0-mile hike will begin at 2 p.m. and should last about an hour.

Paw Paw River County Park is approximately 14 acres of wilderness and peaceful tranquility near downtown Watervliet, Michigan. The park is designed for people of all abilities and encourages the public to experience a natural river area in a beautiful Southwest Michigan setting.

Although membership is preferred, all are welcome to attend this hike. Dress for the weather, wear a sun hat and sturdy shoes or boots, and bring plenty of water. For more information, including driving directions to the Paw Paw River County Park visit the Hikers' website, www.harborcountryhikers.org, or its Facebook page. — STAFF REPORTS

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE New Buffalo Times — SINCE 1942 —

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

It's showtime!!!

The meeting with Those Characters From Cleveland's team began with a scene-by-scene critique of one of my Care Bears scripts. Each exec had their 'observations' and pretty pointed queries: "Why doesn't Cheer Bear get to go up against Dr. Professor Coldheart?" and "Friend Bear doesn't have enough time to show he's a true friend" and "How come Bedtime Bear doesn't have more dialog lines?" and "Why isn't Birthday Bear part of the main plot" and...

I looked to Andy again. He smiled benignly. I think he was surprised when I smiled back. Another writer might have felt Andy had thrown them under the bus.

I knew he was letting me find my own path – which was exactly how I wanted it.

I turned to the 11 Those Characters From Cleveland execs hurling punches at my script's 'shortcomings'. It got heated as they vied to put forth their positions. Before long it wasn't about my scripts. It was about their individual Care Bears.

Ten years before, I was enthralled as I listened to theAli/Foreman Rumble in the Jungle match for the title of World Heavyweight Champion. Muhammad Ali's brilliant strategy had been to lay back on the ropes for eight rounds while George Foreman mercilessly landed blistering blow after blow after blow. Foreman was one of the most powerful boxers in the world, with a punch like a sledgehammer.

That Ali could take that punishment for eight rounds was almost unimaginable -- almost unimaginable because after half an hour of hearing these executives rip my script apart because they felt their individual Care Bear wasn't being featured enough... Well, Foreman might not have been hammering me, but I think I got how Ali must have felt.

Finally, after everyone had their say, it was quiet for a few seconds. I thought how Ali must have felt the moment he realized he had succeeded in letting George Foreman punch himself out. At that moment, Ali saw his opening and went for it.

But it was different for me. I wasn't going to counterpunch and go for a knockout. Unlike Ali and Foreman, we were all in this together. Instead, I said I'd heard all of their points. But, I said, more importantly, I had heard their passion for the Care Bears and it was a passion I also felt. I said I loved what the Care Bears represented and did for children worldwide and I promised to respect and honor that.

I could feel the room temperature warming.

I explained each half-hour episode of the Care Bears television series had two 11-minute stories, making it impossible to service every single Care Bear in every story. But I said I had a grid on my office wall that had every Care Bear listed on it and that I would, over the series' arc, strive to make sure each Care Bear was equally represented in episodes.

This seemed to please them. I closed by saying I would always welcome all of their notes, "but please just send one set of notes that you all agree upon." They laughed and we bonded.

When we left the conference room and headed outside for the waiting black Lincoln Town Car, Andy said, "You did good in there." It was brief but high praise from a man I would come to admire and respect over the years.

HOROSCOPE

AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

This is the time to break habits and make some positive changes to your daily routine. Reflect on how certain habitual behaviors ultimately disconnect you from inner peace. Do things that you can be proud of, even if it means more hard work. It's about doing what's right consistently.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

Evaluate and reflect on the things and people that have been a driving force in your life and see if they are truly an inspiration or just a pitfall that is draining your energy. Weed out things that bring out negative emotions or pull you in out of guilt or fear of abandonment.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

Consider how you have been showing affection and taking responsibilities within your family dynamic. Think about your interactions with those closest to you and see if positions of power and ego trips have undermined your ability to get close. Level up and take some responsibility.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

It's important to use your words wisely this week. Really investigate issues and topics before you give advice or speak out. You may not be wrong about things but you may not have all the facts at the moment weird stuff happens. Better to wait and investigate than start a big disagreement.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

It's time to step beyond what you have previously invested in and turn to new areas of speculation. The knowledge of what doesn't produce results will be very apparent now so, don't hesitate to move things around or cash out completely. Leave now or you may just get stuck waiting for nothing.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

This is the time to take an honest evaluation of yourself. Are you taking good care of yourself or are you carrying on with the neglect set up by past relationships and childhood experiences? Embrace better hygiene techniques and new selfcare routines this week. You're worth it.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

Evaluate your work environment this week. Are you not performing as usual because you are trying to keep the peace or are you over compensating because there is a toxic coworker that you are avoiding? This is the time to correct situations by speaking up and putting an end to backbiting.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

This is the time to root out negative vibes like social media, competitive friendships and unreliable partners. Move away from comparing yourself to others and relying on them to tell you what to do and when to do it. Trust in your own feelings and move away from needing outside validation.

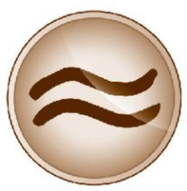
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

Take sometime this week to review what has been accomplished in your living space and reflect on what really serves you and what is excess baggage. Evaluate household items on their ability to last and retain their use over time. Let go of that which requires too much upkeep or maintenance.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

It's time to set out on new paths and leave that old baggage and worn-out ideas behind. Set your sites on destinations and philosophies that broaden and expand your life. Let go of projects that are rigid and that are narrow in scope or require too many exclusionary practices.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



The real question this week is who are you comparing yourself to and why are you trying to be better than someone else? There is a lot to be said about being unique and creating your own style based on your own feelings. Avoid the pitfalls of ruminating how you measure up to others.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

This week is all about reflecting on the hard work and changes you made in the past. So, don't falter or lose your motivation now. Stand firm in the changes you want to continue to keep and move away from things that have become too rigid or really don't suit you.

Those who are hardest to love need it the most.
— Socrates

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

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8								
				4				
6	9				4			
7					2			
	8			3		4	6	7
5	4			7	6		3	
3						6		2
9	7			8			5	

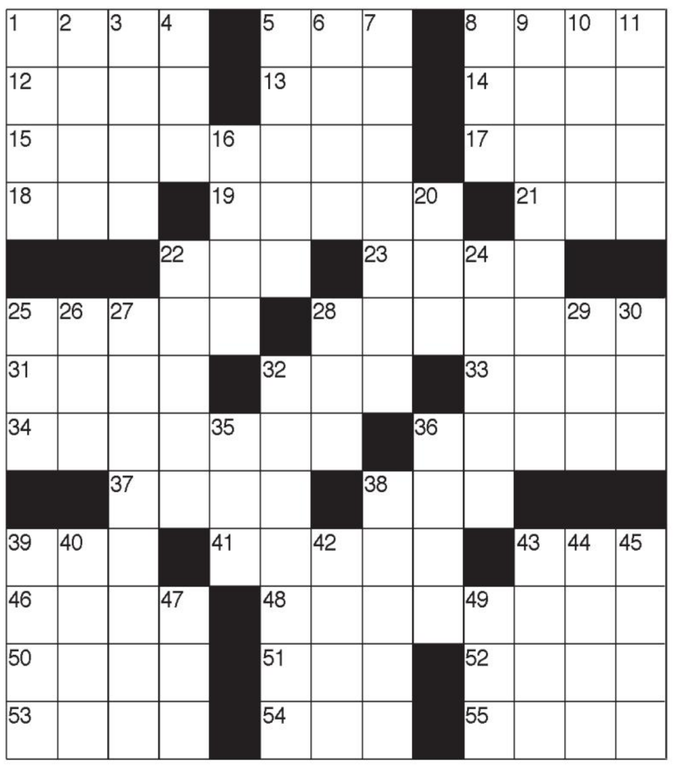
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Indian cuckoo
5 Amer. College of Physicians (abbr.)
8 Middle Eastern abbess
12 "Dies ____"
13 Guido's note (2 words)
14 Cat's cry
15 Extremely happy
17 Object of affection
18 Latitude (abbr.)
19 Open
21 Delirium tremens (abbr.)
22 Master of Landscape Architecture (abbr.)
23 Deteriorate
25 Sergeant fish
28 Family relative
31 Malay canoe
32 Pharmaceutical Chemist (abbr.)
33 Sicilian resort
34 Shrivel
36 Tacoma's sound
37 Rhine tributary
38 Garnet
39 Health maintenance organization (abbr.)
41 Rhone tributary
43 War Shipping Admin. (abbr.)
46 Brand name in electronics
48 Old World bird
50 Bird
51 Associate in Electrical Technology (abbr.)
52 Pen name of Charles Lamb
53 Father (Fr.)
54 Sp. article
55 Quintillionth (pref.)

DOWN

1 German port
2 Killer whale
3 Asia
4 Permit
5 Sicilian volcano
6 Paper fastener
7 Peaceful
8 Friend (Fr.)
9 Interfering
10 Dubious
11 Boring tools
16 Great (Ger.)
20 Snatch
22 Cat's cry
24 Lower intestines
25 Certified Public Accountant (abbr.)
26 Leftover table scrap
27 Sponge
28 Coy
29 Compass direction
30 Pistol
32 Lexical
35 Public Health Service (abbr.)
36 Noble
38 Small flies
39 Lock
40 Buffoon
42 Great Barrier island
43 Flag
44 Tizzy
45 Hermitic language
47 Dread
49 Grassland



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MAGNESIUM – THE KING OF MINERALS

Magnesium is involved in over 500 reactions in our bodies. Including the metabolism of food, the transmission of nerve impulses, the synthesis of fatty acids and proteins, muscle movements, gene maintenance, heart and bone and muscle health. We need to maintain 50% of magnesium in our skeletal system to keep our bones strong and healthy.

Studies show that we are extremely deficient. Our regular use of sugar, alcohol, caffeine, saturated fat and processed foods all deplete magnesium supplies within the body. Many are not eating enough leafy greens and other foods that contain magnesium. If you live a high-stress life, that is a near guarantee that you are magnesium deficient. Also, magnesium levels in our soil are lower than they used to be. The use of chemicals such as fluoride and chlorine added to our water systems make magnesium less available in our bodies.

Here are some major roles that Magnesium deficiency plays in our bodies:

Depression: Magnesium is essential for proper brain function and mood regulation. EVERY participant in a Harvard 600-person study on depression was low in magnesium.

Anxiety: A diet low in magnesium changes the types of bacteria present in the gut and alters anxiety-based behavior. Before starting drugs for anxiety and depression (that have dangerous side effects,) talk to your doctorabout changing your diet to get off processed foods and chemicals and add the foods that are high in magnesium. See the amazing difference in your moods.

Blood sugar balance: Magnesium helps manage insulin levels in the body and can prevent blood sugar spikes and crashes from occurring.

Heart health: even having a slightly reduced level of magnesium can cause severe changes in how the heart, blood vessels, blood cells and other cardiovascular tissue function. Magnesium is critical for proper electrical and mechanical functioning within the nerves, muscle and blood vessels in the heart. Magnesium is one of our essential electrolytes. An absolute essential to be in balance.

Migraines: Research has shown that low brain magnesium is evident during a migraine attack. Low magnesium is responsible for muscle contractions and dehydration.

Bone health: Magnesium is necessary in the strength and pliability of our bones. Our bones need to be saturated with magnesium to keep from osteoporosis and breaks.

PMS: magnesium could be the answer to a host ofpremenstrual symptoms. Like mood swings, fluid retention, depression, breast tenderness, headaches, poor sleep and sugar cravings.

Brain Power: Magnesium is essential for the proper functioning of memory and the ability to learn. Magnesium promotes the firing of nerve impulse and transmission in the brain.

Here are just a few signs that you may be magnesium deficient: Depression and or Anxiety. Muscle cramps and contractions. High blood pressure. Abnormal heartrhythms/palpitations. Tingling. Hormone problems, Sleep issues, Low energy/Fatigue,

Weakness, Personality changes, Low vitamin D and K.

You can take supplements, but the best source of magnesium is straight from nature. Green leafy vegetables, Raw nuts and seeds, Beans, legumes, Raisins, apples, Broccoli, Edamame, Avocado and more.

As you can see, most of the essential mineral comes from a plant based healthy diet.

PET OF THE WEEK

VINO

This big-headed handsome puppy is Vino. At almost a year old, he's always got the biggest smile on his face and, and could make anyone smile. Vino is neutered, and his vaccinations are up-to-date. He is friendly with other dogs, and may do well with cats. So long as he gets his leash-walk/play time, Vino will be your best snuggler when it's to relax. He knows basic manners, to sit, doesn't jump, and loves treats. Vino is a smart learner, and would be best with children older than eight. Make Vino part of your home today.

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Students pose at Florence's Ponte Vecchio bridge

Students visit the ruins at Pompeii

World Travel Club enjoys whirlwind trip to Italy

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

When they return to school next week, students in New Buffalo High School's World Travel Club can list a 10-day whirlwind trip to Italy at the top of their list of summer activities.

Kurt Raducha, who with Leanne Lamport advises the club, said that on June 17, 17 students and two chaperones flew into Venice for their first day of touring. There, they took in many famous sites, including St. Mark's Cathedral, the Doge's Palace, and the Bridge of Sighs. Every student also got to ride in a Gondola through the canals.

Other destinations included Florence to enjoy the immense renaissance history of the city center and the beautiful surrounding Tuscany landscape; a day trip to San Gimignano to prepare a traditional Tuscan meal under the direction of chefs at the Apicius International School of Hospitality; The Florence American Cemetery, which is the final resting place for over 4000 United States WWII soldiers; a train to Naples to visit the ruins of Pompeii before continuing to the Amalfi Coast; and day in Capri and Sorrento to enjoy the beauty of the sea and classic Italian cuisine.

The group closed out their trip in Rome, where they toured the Vatican and explored the history of Rome, from the Trevi Fountain to the Colosseum and Roman Forum.

Max Gotcher, a member of the World Travel Club who spoke during the New Buffalo Area Schools' Board of Education meeting Monday, Aug. 27, said that the trip was his first time outside the U.S.

"I kind of jumped at this opportunity because it's a more affordable way for me to do it and I'd get more value than if I were to go by myself," he said.

Gotcher listed the gondola ride, which was on a "bucket list" for him, and the typical five courses of meals, including the "ton of gelato" that the group enjoyed, as being among the trip's highlights.

Students take a cooking class at the Apicius School of Hospitality

Historical architecture also left an impression on him.

"Everything is much older than anything in the U.S. and the fact the infrastructure is still good, and everything works is pretty bizarre to me," he said.

Bianca Ilescas-Villa said that the Italy trip was also her and her brother's first time abroad.

"Having to be able to do community service hours was really making it so much easier for our family to be able to afford both of us to go," she said.

Ilescas-Villa listed taking the cooking class at the Apicius International School of Hospitality as one of favorite parts. Students were split into two groups, with one being New Buffalo and the other being from another school that joined them at the beginning of the trip.

Ilescas-Villa was also taken aback by the architecture and scenery.

"Just all the spectacle we got to see especially the monuments was so amazing and we can't believe we still go to see all of them," she said.

World Travel Club would like to thank the following restaurants who supported their trip with Give Back Nights: Brewsters, Hummingbird Lounge, PostBoy, Roma Pizza and Villa Nova Pizzeria.

Raducha said it was because of the give backs that all 19 students on the trip were able to ride in the gondola, which wasn't a part of the club's "paid-for plan," and 17 were able to do another boat ride around Capri.

The group had a 24/7 tour director, who was with them from the beginning to the end of the trip, who they were expected to tip with money. Thanks to the community's participation in the giveback nights, Raducha said they were able to pay that tip for all the students.

"We've already gone around to thank them and all show our appreciation and they're already looking forward to working with us for our next trip in 2027," he said.

Raducaha said that a little more than half the students traveled out of the country for the first time on the trip.

The next destination is tentatively being scheduled for Japan, which would take place in spring 2027.

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